

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims with replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously amended): A method of manufacturing a floor panel, the method comprising the steps of:
  - providing a panel body having a core, a top side of said core being provided with a top surface layer, said panel body further having a side surface extending transversely to the top surface layer ;
  - forming a recess extending under the top surface layer from the side surface into the panel body by leaving a freestanding ledge including said top surface layer, said recess having opposing first and second recess surfaces ; and
  - closing said recess by fixing the first and second recess surfaces to one another, thereby forming a floor panel having a beveled top edge with the top surface layer extending continuously and in one piece from the top side of the core over the beveled top edge.
2. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said recess is wedge-shaped.
3. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said first recess surface is arranged adjacent to and essentially parallel to said top surface layer.
4. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said first and second recess surfaces are plain.
5. (previously amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of closing said recess includes the step of applying adhesive.
6. (previously amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the step of closing said recess includes the step of applying pressure to said ledge.

7. (previously amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said ledge consists essentially of said top surface layer.

8. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said floor panel includes a joining element for connecting to a further joining element of an adjacent floor panel in a floor covering formed by said floor panels, and the step of forming said recess includes the step of simultaneously forming said joining element.

9. (previously amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of forming said recess includes the step of removing material from said side surface adjacent to said recess to provide a flushing side surface after having closed said recess.

10. (currently amended): A floor panel as manufactured by the method of claim 1, ~~comprising a core and a beveled top edge, the panel further comprising a top surface layer extending continuously and in one piece from a top side of said core over said beveled top edge.~~

11. (original): A method of manufacturing a floor panel, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing a panel body having a core, a top side of said core being provided with a top surface layer, said panel body further having a side surface extending transversely to the top surface layer;
- forming a recess extending under the top surface layer from the side surface into the panel body by leaving a freestanding ledge including said top surface layer, said recess having at least two opposing recess surfaces; and
- closing said recess by fixing the at least two opposing recess surfaces to one another, thereby forming a floor panel having a beveled top edge with the top surface layer extending continuously and in one piece from the top side of the core over the beveled top edge.

12. (original): The method of claim 11 wherein said recess is wedge-shaped.

13. (original): The method of claim 11 wherein one of the at least two opposing recess surfaces is arranged adjacent to and essentially parallel to said top surface layer.

14. (original): The method of claim 13 wherein the at least two opposing recess surfaces are plain.
15. (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the step of closing said recess includes the step of applying adhesive.
16. (original): The method of claim 15, wherein the step of closing said recess includes the step of applying pressure to said ledge.
17. (original): The method of claim 16, wherein said ledge consists essentially of said top surface layer.
18. (original): The method of claim 16 wherein said floor panel includes a joining element for connecting to a further joining element of an adjacent floor panel in a floor covering formed by said floor panels, and the step of forming said recess includes the step of simultaneously forming said joining element.
19. (original): The method of claim 18 wherein the step of forming said recess includes the step of removing material from said side surface adjacent to said recess to provide a flushing side surface after having closed said recess.
20. (original): A method of manufacturing a floor panel, the method comprising the steps of:
- providing a panel body having a core, a top side of said core being provided with a top surface layer, said panel body further having a side surface extending transversely to the top surface layer;
  - forming a recess extending under the top surface layer from the side surface into the panel body by leaving a freestanding ledge including said top surface layer, said recess having at least two opposing recess surfaces;

- closing said recess by fixing the at least two opposing recess surfaces to one another by applying adhesives and applying pressure to said ledge, thereby forming a floor panel having a beveled top edge with the top surface layer extending continuously and in one piece from the top side of the core over the beveled top edge; and,
- removing material from said side surface adjacent to said recess to provide a flushing side surface after having closed said recess.

21. (original): The method of claim 20 wherein said recess is wedge-shaped.

22. (original): The method of claim 21 wherein one of the at least two opposing recess surfaces is arranged adjacent to and essentially parallel to said top surface layer.

23. (original): The method of claim 22 wherein the at least two opposing recess surfaces are plain.

24. (original): The method of claim 23, wherein said ledge consists essentially of said top surface layer.

25. (original): The method of claim 24 wherein said floor panel includes a joining element for connecting to a further joining element of an adjacent floor panel in a floor covering formed by said floor panels, and the step of forming said recess includes the step of simultaneously forming said joining element.